

# Kanine Korner

By Francis X. Lohmann

Dogs have played a role in books, movies, on television and in advertising for as long as those media have existed. Through the years the memorable characters have gained a "kind of immortality" and many people have been influenced in buying their family pet after seeing or remembering a canine "star" or personality.

The comic strips have always been a haven for rather odd-looking dogs. Little Orphan Annie and her dog, Sandy, have brought many a tear to eyes which could plainly see how unfortunate circumstances were that this disc-eyed girl found a disc-eyed dog who could protect her from the ever imminent disasters she faces.

The scatter-brained Dagwood and Blondie, too, seem lucky to have found a dog like Daisy, who could share the chaotic atmosphere of the Bumstead residence and still be in shape to bark at the postman every morning. Where else could such canine characters find happiness?

ANY OF MY readers who have ever picked up a James Thurber book can simply close his eyes and picture a Thurber-type dog. You can't buy one, they're not in any registry, but these dogs are as definite and true to type as any purebred flesh and blood dog could be. In appearance, and personality, these dogs are unmistakable and any one of them can start you laughing with just a wag of their imaginary tail—which undoubtedly will knock over an imaginary vase onto mother's imaginary favorite white rug.

Every generation has its canine "stars." Some have managed to bridge the span of time and remain popular year after year. Lassie is just such a prime example. If man ever reaches the moon, he will undoubtedly find Lassie, the ever beautiful Collie, perched on the edge of a crater, silhouetted in the earth light.

Canine stars often start a trend. When a particular breed is seen often in films and advertising, that breed's popularity soars upward.

**BOWSER BROWSINGS**—Next big all breed dog show and obedience trial finds the Silver Bay Kennel Club basking in the canine spotlight.

## Entradero Park Show Scheduled

"The Happy Wanderer," the Torrance Recreation Department's traveling puppet theatre, will visit Entradero Park on Aug. 21, 22, and 23. It currently is at Seaside Playground.

Boys and girls 6 years and older can attend the three-day program from 1 to 4 p.m. The children make puppet heads, write a short puppet play, and design and paint the scenery for their own production.

As a finale for their work, they present their production to family and friends.

Sunday, Aug. 27, at Balboa Park in San Diego. This will be a one-day unbenchered how-wow event with Beatrice Godsol judging the Best Dog in Show... Inglewood Meat & Provision Company offering dogs and their owners a welcome change from canned dog food by marketing Peaburger, a frozen meat product obtainable at most supermarkets. Could revolutionize the pet food industry... From the AKC comes this little bit of info—effective immediately the fee to register a litter of puppies is \$3.00 instead of the previous two dollars... Valley Hills Obedience Club holds their 12th annual obedience trial, Saturday, Aug. 19, at the Sepulveda Sports Arena in Encino. For further info—call Don Kilgour at 766-9343.

**SHOULD YOUR dog** accidentally burn himself and provided the burns are not serious, apply tannic acid ointment or Ungentine. In the event that neither one of these remedies are at hand, make a pot of strong tea, cool it and apply liberally. Keep this in mind, too; adequate calcium, phosphorus, and Vitamin D are necessary for the development of strong, healthy teeth. Malformed or structurally faulty teeth usually result from dietary inadequacies... Everybody's favorite, Bob Hope, is an avid Beagle fancier. Governor Ronald Reagan goes for the German Shepherd and Rod Serling favors the Irish Setter.

Latest statistics just released from the Pet Food Institute on the current dog population in America is 27 million. The dog-loving public spends close to one billion dollars a year to keep them happy, healthy and in food, collars, leashes, toys, etc... Heaven goes by favor! If it should ever go by merit, then I'm afraid most of us humans would stay outside the Pearly Gates and our dogs would go in... Robert Louis Stevenson once said along these same lines "You think those dogs will not be in heaven! I tell you they will be there long before any of us."

**BREED OF THE WEEK**—Scottish Deerhound... The Scottish Deerhound looks as though he might have stepped from the frame structure of a medieval tapestry depicting the brilliant procession of a 16th Century hunting party.

During the period when the forests of Scotland housed great herds of deer, the Highland Lords were often summoned by royal command to bring their best hounds to an appointed meeting place in order to provide sport for their king.

A Deerhound must have been a prized possession in those times for it was stated that no one below the rank of an earl could own one. And even a more impressive indication of the breed's high value is the story told by his fanciers that three Deerhounds was the price of freedom for a member of the nobility facing a death sentence.

This seems as though a Scottish noble could get by

with almost anything just as long as he didn't run out of Scottish Deerhounds.

The Scottish Deerhound's fleet-lined muscular physical structure discloses his membership in the family of sight hounds; in fact his appearance has been described as that of a ruggedly built, rough-coated Greyhound.

**THE PURSUIT** of antlered game with hounds is illegal in this country, but American-owned Deerhounds have demonstrated their speed on coyotes, among other fast moving game.

The Deerhound is dignified and gentle in his relations with humans, devoted to his owner and a naturally polite, pleasant house dog.

One of the points of interest on the grounds of Abbotsford, Sir Walter Scott's beautiful country estate in Scotland, is the grave of Maida, his beloved Scottish Deerhound. Although Sir Walter Scott lived literally surrounded by a pack of dogs of all breeds, Maida was by far his favorite. The Deerhound tips the scales at about 95 pounds and in height 31 inches.

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